

STATINTL

NIXON, BACK IN U.S., DISPUTES FULBRIGHT

Richard M. Nixon disagreed yesterday with Senator J. W. Fulbright's recent appeal for a more flexible approach toward Communist China.

The former Vice President said the United States should take a "harder and stronger" position against Communist aggression in Southeast Asia.

Returning from a 24-day business trip through Asia, Mr. Nixon said:

"We should strengthen our policy toward Communist activities in Asia rather than move along the lines suggested by Senator Fulbright."

He called the Fulbright approach "soft."

Mr. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas, is the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In a speech to the Senate on March 25 he said the United States should adopt an "open door" policy toward Communist China that could, he said, lead eventually to normal relations.

Mr. Nixon was critical of this approach in a brief statement to reporters shortly after his plane from Tokyo landed at Kennedy International Airport at 3 A.M.

Mr. Nixon will give "some major recommendations with regard to United States foreign policy" in a speech before the New York Chamber of Commerce today and in a talk to the American Society of Newspaper Editors in Washington on Saturday.